

Alameda County Coroner's Bureau
Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff/Coroner
2901 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605
(510) 382-3000

Coroner Investigator's Report

CALL INFO	NAME OF DECEASED (LAST, FIRST MIDDLE) BROWN, Michael Anthony		TENTATIVE I UNIDENTIFIED		CASE NUMBER 2015-01168	
	REPORTED BY Michael Dalisay #2134		REPORTED BY PHONE		REFERENCE NUMBER	
	INVESTIGATOR STEPHANIE BEEZLEY		CALL DATE AND TIME 4/8/2015 1520		REPORTING AGENCY Alameda County Sheriff's Office-ETS	
			CASE TYPE Removal Case			
DECEDENT	DATE AND TIME OF DEATH 4/8/2015 1423		DATE OF BIRTH 1/5/1987	AGE 28 Years	GENDER	RACE African-American
	HGT		WGT	EYE COLOR Brown	HAIR COLOR Black	OCCUPATION
					EMPLOYER	
	Preliminary Summary: [REDACTED]					
DEATH	LOCATION OF DEATH Santa Rita Jail					LOC TYPE Other
	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP) 5325 Broder , Dublin, CA, 94568					COUNTY Alameda
	Manner Suicide		Death Certificate Signed By			
	Cause A	ASPHYXIA				Interval Minutes
	Cause B	HANGING				Interval
	Cause C					Interval
	Cause D					Interval
	Other Significant Conditions					
NOTIFIC.	LEGAL NEXT OF KIN [REDACTED]		RELATIONSHIP [REDACTED]		TELEPHONE NO. [REDACTED]	
	NOTIFIED BY		METHOD Coroner/telephone		DATE AND TIME 4/9/2015 2245	
	IDENTIFICATION METHOD		DATE AND TIME			
INCIDENT	LOCATION OF INCIDENT Santa Rita Jail					AT WORK
	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP) 5325 Broder Blvd, HU 2, Dublin, CA, 94568					COUNTY Alameda
	INVESTIGATING AGENCY Alameda County Sheriff's Office-ETS					DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT 4/8/2015 0000
	INV AGENCY PHONE NUMBER					OFFICER
DISP	FUNERAL HOME COOLEY'S FUNERAL					BODY RELEASE TO FUNERAL HOME ON 4/11/2015 1354
	Full Autopsy Yes	Partial Autopsy	Inspection	Record Review	Inspection w/Specimen	EXAM BY JOHN IOCCO



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Investigator Narrative

Decedent: BROWN, Michael Anthony

Case Number: 2015-01168

Investigator: Stephanie Beezley

First Call Information:

On Wednesday, April 8, 2015, about 1540 hours, I was told by Deputy Bordi #1879, inmate Michael Anthony Brown hanged himself from the upper bunk in his cell, D-13, in Housing Unit 2 at Santa Rita Jail. Brown was an Administrative Segregation inmate and was in the cell by himself. Deputy Dalisay #2134 found Brown hanging from his bunk as he was having lunches passed out to the inmates in their cells. Deputies Dalisay and Mulholland cut Brown down and started CPR. 9-1-1 was called and Corizon Health Services arrived and assisted with CPR. Alameda County Fire Department, Truck 17, arrived and continued CPR. After life saving measures were unsuccessful, death was pronounced at 1423 hours.

Medical Summary:

Alameda County Sheriff's Office Lieutenant V. Fox informed me Brown had a history of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (SB2018)

Description of the Death/ Injury Scene:



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Medical Summary:

Alameda County Sheriff's Office Lieutenant V. Fox informed me Brown had a history of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Description of the Death/ Injury Scene:

Brown died in Housing Unit 2, Cell D-13, at Santa Rita Jail, 5325 Broder Boulevard in Dublin, 94568.
(SB2018)



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Body Identification:

Brown was identified to me by deputy staff at Santa Rita Jail. Brown had a jail issued wrist band on his right wrist, which had his name, photograph, and Personal File Number [REDACTED] on it. I (Beezley) printed a copy of Brown's CalPhoto picture, which I compared to the decedent and they appeared to be a match. (SB2018)

On April 10, 2015, about 0810 hours, I received a fingerprint comparison notification that was faxed to the Coroner's Bureau from CIB. The fax indicated a comparison was done for the fingerprints of Michael Anthony Brown with a DOB of 01/05/1987 to the fingerprints associated with PFN Personal File Number: [REDACTED]. The fingerprints were identified to have been made by the same subject, indicating a positive identification. (PAM2359)

Next of Kin Investigation:

Next of Kin was unknown at the time of the first call. (SB2018)

On Thursday, April 09, 2015, I (Beezley) ran an Accurant report to attempt to locate any possible next of kin. I was met with negative results. (SB2018)

On Thursday, April 9, 2015, I (Beezley) contacted the Alameda County Probation Department to attempt to locate next of kin. I was told Brown was on unsupervised probation. I left a message for the Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) Bingham to call me with next of kin information. (SB2018)

DPO Bingham called me with several possibilities for next of kin. I received information about Brown's mother, [REDACTED] (SB2018)

I contacted Stanislaus County Coroner's Office to request they attempt to contact [REDACTED] at the address provided to me by DPO Bingham. They said they would contact the Coroner's Office with any results. (SB2018)



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Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office contacted me regarding the death notification. They said [REDACTED] no longer resided at the address in [REDACTED]. They gave me a new address that [REDACTED] may now reside at in [REDACTED].

I contacted San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office regarding a death notification to Brown's mother [REDACTED]. I sent a teletype to the Sheriff's Office requesting a Deputy make the notification and contact the Coroner's Bureau with any results. The San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office said there was no one at the residence but they left a business card. (SB2018)

On April 9, 2015, about 2245 hours, I (Plasencia) received a phone call from [REDACTED] who identified herself as Michael Anthony Brown's mother. She said she found a business card on her door directing her to contact the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Coroner's Bureau in regards to her son. I notified her of Brown's death and she became too distraught to continue speaking with me. She passed the phone to her sister and I advised her sister of the Coroner's Bureau involvement in this case and the need to designate a funeral home to act on their behalf for final arrangements. I provided her with our contact information and case number and requested that she pass the information on to [REDACTED]. She said she would. (RRP1868)

On April 10, 2015, about 1020 hours, I (Beezley) spoke to Brown's Mother, [REDACTED]. I explained the Coroner Bureau's involvement in this case and advised her to start making funeral arrangements. [REDACTED] said Brown was never married and did not have any children making [REDACTED] the legal next of kin. (SB2018)

Other Agency Reports:

Alameda County Sheriff's Office report number 15-005984. (SB2018)



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On Wednesday, July 29, 2015, I received a copy of the report. I reviewed the report and place the copy into the case file. I found the report to be accurate with what had already been reported to me. (SB2018)

Property and Evidence:

I provided Deputy Mulholland with a copy of coroner's receipt number 35885. (SB2018)

Coroners Fees:

There are body removal and body preparation fees totaling \$321 associated with this case. (SB2018)

On Thursday, August 6, 2015, about 1108 hours, I (Beezley) was preparing this case for closure and saw the coroner's fees had been paid in full. (SB2018)

Investigative Details:

On Wednesday, April 8, 2015, Deputy Meldrum #1859 and I (Beezley) arrived at Santa Rita Jail located at 5325 Broder Boulevard in Dublin. We were met by Deputy Dalisay, who escorted us into Housing Unit 2, which is on the Maximum Security side of the jail. Deputy Plosser escorted us to cell D-13, where Brown was located. As Deputy Plosser opened the cell door, I saw Brown lying on the floor face up. Brown had on jail issued red pants and a brown T-shirt, which had been cut open by the Fire Department during life saving measures. Brown had an intravenous line in his left arm, an oropharyngeal airway in his mouth, Automatic External Defibrillation pads and EKG pads attached to his body. I could see bruising around his neck where the bed sheet had been used as a ligature. On the upper bunk, I saw there was a bed sheet that had been tied around it. On the floor was the part of the bed sheet that had been around Brown's neck. Deputies Dalisay and Mulholland had cut the bed sheet away before performing life saving measures. I collected the entire bed sheet to bring back to the Coroner's Bureau for examination. Brown's hands were placed into paper bags to preserve any trace evidence. There were no notes or letters of intent found in Brown's cell. Deputy Meldrum took photographs of Brown and the scene. Brown was moved to a gurney and into the Coroner's van for transport back to the Coroner's Bureau.



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Deputy Dalisay gave me the following information; Brown was brought into custody at Santa Rita Jail on April 4, 2015. On April 8, 2015, Brown left the jail for a court appearance and returned to Housing Unit 2, approximately 1130 hours. When returned to the housing unit, Brown was placed into the Quasi yard with handcuffs and waist chains in place. Approximately 1215 hours, Deputies Dalisay and Mulholland escorted Brown back to his cell in D-pod. Brown was not confrontational and conversed with the deputies while they conducted their strip search. At 1315 hours, Deputy Mulholland saw Brown lying on the bottom bunk in his cell. About 1338 hours, Deputy Dalisay and Deputy Mulholland began passing out lunches to the housing unit inmates. At 1348 hours, Deputy Dalisay and Deputy Mulholland returned to check on Brown's cell, D-13, due to the fact Brown had not acknowledged receiving his lunch. Brown had his cell door window covered with cardboard making it impossible to see into the cell.

Deputy Mulholland and Deputy Dalisay opened Brown's cell to check on his welfare. Deputy Mulholland saw Brown, in what appeared to be a seated position in front of the bottom bunk but his rear-end was slightly lifted off the ground. After looking closer, Deputy Mulholland saw Brown had a bed sheet tied around his neck and he was actually hanging from the upper bunk. Both deputies lifted Brown's body and cut the sheet that was tied to the upper bunk. Brown was placed onto the floor of the cell and a request for a "Code-3" ambulance and medical assistance was put out over their hand held radio. CPR was started by Deputy Mulholland at that time. Corizon Health Services Nurse McLean arrived on scene and assisted with life saving measures. Alameda County Fire Department and Paramedics Plus ambulance arrived soon after and took over the life saving measures. After life saving measures were unsuccessful, death was pronounced at 1423 hours. (SB2018)

On Wednesday, April 8, 2015, about 1830 hours, Deputy Meldrum and I (Beezley) arrived back at the Coroner's Bureau. Deputy Meldrum took intake photographs and we processed Brown into the morgue. All photographs were later downloaded to CD-R disk and placed into the case file. (SB2018)

On Thursday, April 9, 2015, at 1000 hours, Coroner's Pathologist Dr. J. Iocco conducted an autopsy on Brown. Dr Iocco determined Brown's cause of death to be [REDACTED]



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On Friday, April 10, 2015, Central Valley Toxicology (CVT) received Brown's femoral blood sample. CVT conducted a complete drug screen and there were no common acidic, neutral or basic drugs detected. There was no ethyl alcohol detected. (SB2018)

Findings:

On Wednesday, August 26, 2015, about 1054 hours, I (Beezley) reviewed this case to determine a manner of death. Based on my investigation, the autopsy protocol, Brown's history of [REDACTED] and the fact he was found alone, in his own cell, hanging with a bed sheet tied around his neck, I find the manner of this death to be suicide. (SB2018)

Supervisor Review:

On Friday, August 28, 2015, I (Sgt. Baron) reviewed this case and found it to be complete. I concur with the findings and approve this case for closure. (HB#2017)



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Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff

Director of Emergency Services
Coroner - Marshal

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 9, 2015
FROM: John Iocco, M.D.
TO: Case File 2015-01168
SUBJECT: AUTOPSY PROTOCOL

Autopsy performed upon the body of Michael Anthony Brown at the Coroner's Bureau, 2901 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, California, on April 9, 2015, at 8:40 a.m.

AUTOPSY FINDINGS

- 1) CONTUSION/ABRASION, NECK.
- 2) HISTORY OF HANGING WHILE INCARCERATED.
- 3) OBESITY.

CAUSE OF DEATH: ASPHYXIA DUE TO HANGING.

cc: EMS
District Attorney
Investigations Bureau

Sheriff-Coroner
Alameda County

Body of MICHAEL ANTHONY BROWN

1 EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

2 The body, identified by a coroner's identification tag, is
3 that of an obese black male appearing the stated age. Hands are
4 bagged.

5 There is the following evidence of MEDICAL THERAPY:

6 1) Defibrillator pads are present over the anterior torso.

7 2) An oral airway is present centrally.

8 A red contusion/superficial abrasion, 1/4 to 1 inch in
9 diameter, is present over the neck. The contusion/abrasion is
10 approximately 3 inches lower on the anterior neck than on the
11 posterior neck. The greatest width is at the right anterior-
12 lateral neck. In the anterior midline, it is situated just
13 below the mandible.

14 Normal alignment is noted of the head, neck, torso and
15 extremities. Bilateral gynecomastia is noted. The abdomen is
16 distended. External genitalia are normal. Healed scars, 3 to 6
17 inches, are noted over the abdomen, right back, and left lateral
18 leg. No exudates or fresh perforations are noted. Scattered,
19 1- to 2-inch scars are noted over the legs.

20 No binding indentations of the extremities/ no scars over
21 accessible veins.

22 Moderate rigor is noted in the extremities, firm rigor in

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Alameda County

Body of MICHAEL ANTHONY BROWN

23 the jaw.

24 INTERNAL EXAMINATION

25 PRIMARY INCISION AND BODY CAVITIES: The usual Y-SHAPED
26 THORACOABDOMINAL INCISION demonstrates an approximate 2-inch
27 thickness to the umbilical fat. Body cavities are physiologic.

28 HEART: The heart weighs 370 grams and has a normal apex.
29 Left ventricle is 1.5 cm thick. The valvular rings are of
30 normal circumference. The valve leaflets are thin and delicate.
31 Coronary arteries show slight, focal calcific atherosclerosis.
32 No significant coronary artery obstruction/ no infarction/ no
33 hemorrhage/ no vegetations/ no anatomical anomaly.

34 LUNGS: Left lung weighs 730 grams; right lung weighs 810
35 grams. The bronchi are clear. The pulmonary arteries are
36 clear. No consolidation/ no masses/ no nodules/ no thrombo-
37 emboli/ no hemorrhages/ no contusions/ no aspiration.

38 ESOPHAGUS: Thin-walled, lined by a flat, smooth, brown-tan
39 mucosa. No abnormality.

40 STOMACH: Thin-walled, containing approximately 4 ounces of
41 partially digested food. No pills. No ulcer/ no masses/ no
42 perforation.

43 SMALL AND LARGE INTESTINES: Physiologic. The appendix is
44 normal.

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Body of MICHAEL ANTHONY BROWN

45 LIVER: Weighs 2400 grams. Incised surfaces are brown and
46 smooth. No masses/ no nodules/ no hemorrhage/ no aspiration.

47 GALLBLADDER: Contains approximately 2 ounces of green
48 bile. Mucosa and wall are normal, free of calculi.

49 PANCREAS: Has a brownish-tan, lobular architecture. No
50 hemorrhage/ no masses/ no trauma.

51 KIDNEYS: Each kidney weighs 170 grams. Capsules strip
52 with ease, revealing smooth cortices. Medullae and calyces are
53 unremarkable. The ureters are thin-walled, following the usual
54 anatomic course to the urinary bladder.

55 The urinary bladder has approximately 2 ounces of pink
56 urine. No hemorrhage/ no masses.

57 ADRENAL GLANDS: Physiologic.

58 SPLEEN: Weighs 170 grams, has a smooth, red incised
59 surface.

60 NECK ORGANS: The hyoid bone and cartilages of the larynx
61 and trachea are intact. No fracture of the hyoid bone or
62 larynx. Mucosa is intact. No aspiration/ no mass/ no
63 obstruction/ no contusions.

64 HEAD: The scalp is reflected, revealing no evidence of
65 hemorrhage in the subcutaneous tissue or galea. The calvarium
66 is normocephalic, free of fracture. The dura is thin and

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Alameda County

Body of MICHAEL ANTHONY BROWN

67 fibrous. The leptomeninges are thin, delicate and transparent.
68 The brain weighs 1250 grams. The gyri are flat. The sulci are
69 narrowed. The ventricular fluid is clear. The brain stem,
70 cerebellum and cerebral hemispheres show no herniation,
71 hemorrhage, or space-occupying lesion.

72

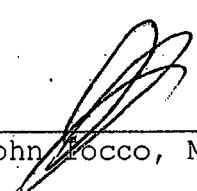
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77 JI/cah



John Pocco, M.D.



Case Name:

Brown,

TOXICOLOGY NUMBER: CVT-15-4602

Michael

35 ml femoral blood & 11 ml urine each labeled "Brown, Michael; 2015-01168;

04/09/2015; 187"

Specimen Description:

Delivered by Tricor

Date 10-Apr-15

Received by Bill Posey

Date 10-Apr-15

Request: Complete Drug Screen

Agency Case # 2015-01168

Requesting Agency

Alameda Co. Coroner's Office
Attn: Acct's Payable
2901 Peralta Oaks Ct., 2nd Floor
Oakland CA 94605

Report To

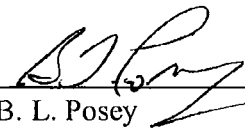
Alameda Co. Coroner's Office
Attn: Dr. Iocco
2901 Peralta Oaks Ct., 2nd Floor
Oakland CA 94605

Specimen: Femoral Blood Sample

RESULTS

Complete Drug Screen: No common acidic, neutral or basic drugs detected.
No Ethyl Alcohol detected.

4/21/15
JR


B. L. Posey

April 15, 2015

B.L. POSEY
S.N. KIMBLE
Directors

1580 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, California 93611
Phone (559) 323-9940
Fax (559) 323-7502